

**WHAT SAY YOU?**  
**-Ryan Parsons-**

Proverbs repeatedly reminds its wise pupils that one must be a prudent practitioner of speech. The way in which one uses their mouth not only reveals their heart (15:14), BUT God is paying attention (15:3). Thankfully it gives us a few good tips on how to best manage our speech with wisdom.

**Be a peacemaker!** It seems like someone else said that in Matthew 5:9.

Proverbs 15:1

*A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.*

**Be a builder, not a destroyer!** Paul says something similar to the church in Ephesus (Ephesians 4:29).

Proverbs 15:4

*A gentle tongue is a tree of life,  
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.*

**Use it to teach and disciple others!** Timothy was instructed by Paul to use his words to do this very thing because there would soon be people who didn't (2 Timothy 4:2).

Proverbs 15:7

*The lips of the wise spread knowledge;  
not so the hearts of fools*

**Take your time!** Peter was a pretty impetuous speaker. Later in life, he would exhort Christians to prepare ahead of time how to answer people (1 Peter 3:15)

Proverbs 15:28

*The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer,  
but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.*

Thankfully, we have God's wisdom shared with us, and it directs us in all aspects of life...even how we speak. May this wisdom lead us as we make peace, build, disciple, and patiently interact with others.

What say you?

Keep Studying,  
Ryan